



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID: 0648-XB931]

#### Research Track Assessment for Eastern Georges Bank and Georges Bank Haddock

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS will convene the Research Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting for the purpose of reviewing Eastern Georges Bank (EGB) and Georges Bank (GB) haddock stocks. The Research Track Assessment Peer Review is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. and Canadian waters of the northwest Atlantic.

Assessments are prepared by the research track working group and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts from the Center of Independent Experts (CIE). The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

**DATES:** The public portion of the Research Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting will be held from March 28, 2022 – March 31, 2022. The meeting will conclude on March 31, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via WebEx.

Link: <https://noaanmfs-meets.webex.com/noaanmfs-meets/j.php?MTID=mfadfc0e507ed052d63c95340b3a9d9d4>.

Meeting number (access code): 2764 775 0084.

Meeting password: D9Zm8ZBMbZ8.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Michele Traver, phone: 508-257-

1642; email: [michele.traver@noaa.gov](mailto:michele.traver@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For further information, please visit the

Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) website at

[https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-](https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/fishery-stock-assessments-new-england-and-mid-atlantic)

[assessments/fishery-stock-assessments-new-england-and-mid-atlantic](https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/fishery-stock-assessments-new-england-and-mid-atlantic). For additional

information about research track assessment peer review, please visit the NEFSC

webpage at [https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-](https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/research-track-stock-assessments)

[assessments/research-track-stock-assessments](https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/research-track-stock-assessments).

### **Daily Meeting Agenda – Research Track Peer Review Meeting**

The agenda is subject to change; all times are approximate and may be changed at the discretion of the Peer Review Chair.

#### **Monday, March 28, 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
11 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics Introductions/Agenda/ Conduct of Meeting	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Russ Brown, PopDy Branch Chief Richard Merrick and Rob Kronlund, Panel Co-Chairs	
11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Term of Reference (TOR) #2	Liz Brooks Monica Finley	GB Catch data (US/Can) EGB Catch data (US/Can)
12:45 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Break		
1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	TOR #3	Liz Brooks Monica Finley	GB Surveys EGB Surveys
3:45 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Break		
4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
4:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
4:45 p.m.	Adjourn		

**Tuesday, March 29, 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
11 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Richard Merrick and Rob Kronlund, Panel Co-Chairs	
11:05 a.m. - 1 p.m.	TORs #1 and #9	Kevin Friedland Yanjun Wang Liz Brooks	Ecosystem and Recruitment Processes
1 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
1:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.	Break		
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	TORs #10 and #12	Yanjun Wang Steve Cadrin	Density-Dependent Growth and Stock Structure
4 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Break		
4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
4:45 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
5 p.m.	Adjourn		

**Wednesday, March 30, 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
11 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Richard Merrick and Rob Kronlund, Panel Co-Chairs	
11:05 a.m. - 1 p.m.	TOR #4	Liz Brooks Tom Carruthers	Mortality, Recruitment and Biomass Estimates GB Models EGB Models
1 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Break		
1:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.	TOR #4 cont.	Liz Brooks Tom Carruthers	Mortality, Recruitment and Biomass Estimates GB Models EGB Models
4 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Break		
4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
4:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
4:45 p.m.	Adjourn		

**Thursday, March 31, 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
11 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Richard Merrick and Rob Kronlund, Panel Co-Chairs	
11:05 a.m. - 1 p.m.	TORs #5, #11 and #6	Liz Brooks Tom Carruthers	BRPs EGB Reference Points Projections
1 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Break		
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	TORs # 8 and #7	Liz Brooks Tom Carruthers Brian Linton	Alternative Assessment Approach Research Recommendations
3:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
4 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Break		
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Panel Wrap-up and Report Discussion	Review Panel	
5:30 p.m.	Adjourn		

The meeting is open to the public; however, during the ‘Report Discussion’ session on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, the public should not engage in discussion with the Peer Review Panel.

### **Special Accommodations**

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Special requests should be directed to Michele Traver, via email.

Dated: March 31, 2022.

**Ngagne Jafnar Gueye,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,*

*National Marine Fisheries Service.*

